

NIMS Alert

FEMA RELEASES NIMCAST, A NIMS COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT TOOL

WASHINGTON – The Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency and the NIMS Integration Center have released a Web-based self-assessment system that will allow state, tribal and local departments and agencies evaluate their incident preparedness and response capabilities. The voluntary system, the National Incident Management Compliance Assessment Support Tool, or NIMCAST, will also help users determine what they need to do to comply with National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements.

“NIMCAST is a valuable tool that will allow organizations to evaluate and monitor their progress in implementing NIMS,” said Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response. “But it’s more than just a technical assessment system. It also will help the federal government target NIMS improvement strategies in areas where there is the greatest need.”

Although the official NIMCAST database system is permission based, anyone may access the site, establish a stand-alone account and use the NIMCAST to evaluate their own capabilities and compliance status. Just click on the ["Request a New Account"](#) in the Login box on the right side of the NIMCAST Homepage and provide the requested information.

Users may also download the complete assessment tool, chapter by chapter, in pdf, “read-only” format. NIMS points-of-contact for each of the FEMA Regional Offices were trained on the use of the system in mid-January. They will in turn provide NIMCAST training to state contacts.

NIMCAST may be accessed directly at www.fema.gov/nimcast or via the NIMS Homepage at www.fema.gov/nims. For more information about NIMS and NIMCAST e-mail the NIMS-Integration-Center@dhs.gov, or call 202-646-3850.

FEMA prepares the nation for all hazards and manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates mitigation activities, trains first responders, works with state and local emergency managers, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.

The NIMS Integration Center
Jan. 27, 2005